CLAIMS

1. A method of screening for and /or diagnosis of a cardiovascular disorder in a subject, comprising the steps of:

   i)   detecting and /or quantifying the level of a polypeptide in a biological sample from said subject, wherein the polypeptide is selected from:

      a.   a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:3-5;

      b.   a variant, with at least 95% sequence identity, having one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions or insertions relative to an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3-5; and

      c.   a fragment of a polypeptide as defined in i) or ii) above which is a least ten amino acids long; and

   ii)   comparing said level to that of a control sample,

   wherein a decrease in said level relative to that of the control is indicative of a cardiovascular disorder.

2. A method of predicting a cardiovascular disorder in a subject, comprising the steps of:

   (a)   detecting and /or quantifying the level of a polypeptide in a biological sample from said subject, wherein the polypeptide is selected from:

      a.   a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:3-5;

      b.   a variant, with at least 95% sequence identity, having one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions or insertions relative to an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3-5; and

      c.   a fragment of a polypeptide as defined in i) or ii) above which is a least ten amino acids long; and

   (b) comparing said level to that of a control sample,

   wherein a decrease in said level relative to that of the control indicates a risk of developing a cardiovascular disorder.

3. The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein said cardiovascular disorder is Coronary Artery Disease (CAD).

4. The method of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said biological sample is plasma.

5. The method of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said polypeptide is detected and /or quantified by mass spectrometry.

6. The method of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said polypeptide is detected and /or quantified by Enzyme-Linked Immuno Sorbent Assay.

7. An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:3-4.

8. The polypeptide of claim 7, wherein said polypeptide is fused to a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

9. An isolated polypeptide comprising a variant amino acid sequence, with at least 95% sequence identity, having one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions or insertions relative to an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3-4.

10. An isolated polypeptide, which is a fragment of a polypeptide of claim 7 or 9, which is a least ten amino acids long.

11. A composition comprising the polypeptide according to claim 7, 9 or 10, further comprising a carrier or diluent.

12. The composition of claim 11, wherein said polypeptide is present at an effective amount.

13. An anti-Cardiovascular disorder Plasma Polypeptide (CPP) antibody that selectively binds to a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:3-4.

14. A method of binding an antibody to a Cardiovascular disorder Plasma Polypeptide (CPP) comprising the steps of:
    i)   contacting the antibody of claim 13 with a biological sample under conditions that permit antibody binding; and
    ii) removing contaminants.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said antibody is attached to a label group.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein said sample is human plasma.

17. A method of identifying a Cardiovascular disorder Plasma Polypeptide (CPP) modulator comprising the steps of:

    i)   contacting a test compound with a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1-5 under sample conditions permissive for at least one CPP biological activity;

    ii)   determining the level of said at least one CPP biological activity;

    iii) comparing said level to that of a control sample lacking said test compound; and

    iv) selecting a test compound which causes said level to change for further testing as a CPP modulator for the prophylactic and/or therapeutic treatment of cardiovascular disorders.

18. A method for preventing a cardiovascular disorder, comprising the step of administering the composition of claim 11 or 12 to an individual.

19. A method of treating a cardiovascular disorder, comprising the step of administering the composition of claim 11 or 12 to an individual.

20. The method of claim 18 or 19, wherein said composition is administered by injection.